l: Krasheninnikov N-5 (1736-40) 1764 Kamchadal

people, it has been perverted by fooliſh and ridiculous ceremonies; and this appears the more probable, becauſe that, after their ſummer or harveſt labour is over, they look upon it as a ſin to do any work, or make any viſits, before this holiday, which if any one neglects he is obliged to expiate it at that time, if not before. From hence we may ſee that the anceſtors of this people were accuſtomed to offer up the firſt fruits of their ſummer labours to God, and to make merry with one another. The northern and ſouthern *Kamtſchadales* have different ceremonies in the celebration of their holidays, which are extremely ſilly, and conſiſt of many ridiculous anticks. I ſhall give a ſlight ſketch of one of theſe aſſemblies in the ſouthern *Kamtſchatka*.

After many ſtrange ceremonies they introduce a little bird and a fiſh, which they roaſt upon the coals, and divide amongſt them, when every one throws his ſhare into the fire as a ſacrifice, or an offering, to thoſe ſpirits which come to their feaſts; then they boil dried fiſh, the broth of which they pour out before their image, and eat the fiſh themſelves; and then take the birch-tree out of the hut, and carrying it to their magazines, lay it up there to be kept for the whole year. Thus ends the feſtival.

CHAP. XIV.

Of their FEASTS *and* DIVERSIONS.

THEY make feaſts when one village entertains another, either upon the account of a wedding, or having had a plentiful fiſhing or hunting. The landlords entertain their gueſts with great bowls of opanga, 'till they are all ſet a vomiting;

7:Lesseps T-3 (1787-88)1790 Kamchadal

262 ſchadales and Ruſſians of this country.
222 When the women go out to make theſe har-
462 veſts for winter conſumption, it is high holy-
527 day with them, and the anniverſary is cele-
brated by a riotous and intemperate joy, that frequently gives riſe to the moſt extravagant and indecent ſcenes. They diſperſe in crouds through the country, ſinging and giving themſelves up to all the abſurdities which their imagination ſuggeſts; no conſideration of fear or modeſty reſtrains them. I cannot better deſcribe their licentious frenzy than by comparing it with the bacchanals of the Pagans. Ill betide the man whom chance conducts and delivers into their hands! however reſolute or however active he may be, it is impoſſible to evade the fate that awaits him; and it is ſeldom that he eſcapes, without receiving a ſevere flagellation.

Their proviſions are prepared nearly in the